

# Water Cycle Voyage

## Overview:

Participants will review their knowledge of the water cycle and create a bracelet to document the journey of a water drop through the cycle.

## Goals:

- Understand the steps in the water cycle.
- Experience the journey a drop of water takes thru the water cycle.

**Time Required:** 30-45 minutes

## Materials:

- For each student:
  - 12-inch length of faux suede lace/cord
- For each station:
  - Dice
  - Instruction Sheet
  - Station Sign
  - Containers with pony beads (different color beads for each station, [www.beadtin.com](http://www.beadtin.com) is a great source for pony beads)

**Vocab:** Evaporation, Condensation, Precipitation, Sublimation, Accumulation

## Set Up:

1. Set up the activity by creating stations all around the room. Each station should be marked with a sign.
2. Place a die and the appropriate instruction sheet at each station.
3. Finally, place a bowl or container with pony beads. You can use any color of beads but should have a unique color for each stop. Here are some color ideas for the beads, but feel free to substitute as needed:

Station	Bead Color
Glacier	Gray
Lake	Blue
Clouds	White
Soil	Brown
Plants	Green
Groundwater	Light blue
Ocean	Turquoise
River	Dark Blue
Animals	Red

## Procedure:



## Water Cycle Voyage

1. Have students start the KWL chart on their worksheet. Record some things they know (K), and things they want to know (W) in the appropriate columns.
2. Begin by reviewing what students know about the water cycle. Some questions to ask:
  - a. "What do you know about the water cycle?"
  - b. "What do those words (evaporation, condensation, etc.) mean?"
  - c. "Where do we find water?"
  - d. "How is water used?"
3. Next, ask "What are some questions you have?"
4. Review the basics of the water cycle. Go Noodle has a fun Water Cycle Sing along (see slides)
5. Introduce the activity by telling students they are going to be a drop of water. They will have the chance to take a trip through the water cycle. Explain the procedures for the activity. Look around the room – you will see pictures of different places where water exists (oceans, lakes, glaciers, clouds, rivers, groundwater) and things that use water like animals and plants.
6. Give each student a length of cord, encourage them to tie a loose knot in one end of the cord to keep their beads from falling off.
7. Explain that each station has a die, an instruction card, and beads.
8. Start by choosing a location to start at. You can pick anywhere you want. Record your starting place on your worksheet.
9. Once at the station:
  - a. Put a bead from that station on your bracelet.
  - b. Roll the die.
  - c. Look at the instruction sheet to see what happens.
  - d. Record what happens to you on your worksheet.
  - e. Go to the new station as indicated on the instruction sheet.
  - f. Repeat steps a-f.
  - g. You are finished when you have 10 beads on your bracelet.
10. Have students draw a picture of their journey on their worksheet.

### Reflection:

1. Which station did you travel to the most? Why do you think that is?
2. Who got stuck at the ocean? Why?
3. Why did everyone keep going back to the clouds?
4. What are the four main stages of the water cycle?
5. Add what you learned to the L column of your KWL chart.

### Extension / Adaptations:

1. Things to consider:
  - a. It is possible to stay at one location for multiple "dice rolls". You may want to make a rule where you can pick a new spot on the card once you have stayed at the same station 2 times.
  - b. This version of the game uses regular dice at each station. See the "adapted from" lessons for instructions to make custom dice for each station.



## *Water Cycle Voyage*

### **Adapted from the following lesson:**

Oklahoma 4-H. "The Water Cycle Game." *Oklahoma 4-H Water Curriculum Resources*, 2023, [4h.okstate.edu/projects/science-and-technology/water/site-files/files/4h2o-curriculum/2023-4h2o-water-cycle-game.pdf](https://4h.okstate.edu/projects/science-and-technology/water/site-files/files/4h2o-curriculum/2023-4h2o-water-cycle-game.pdf).

Project WET. "The Incredible Journey: Sample Project Wet Activity." *Project WET Sample Activity*, 1995, [files.dnr.state.mn.us/education\\_safety/education/project\\_wet/sample\\_activity.pdf](https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/education_safety/education/project_wet/sample_activity.pdf).

### **Resources:**

GoNoodle. "Water Cycle | Songs for Kids | Sing along | Gonoodle." *YouTube*, YouTube, 19 May 2017, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=KM-59ljA4Bs&t=147s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KM-59ljA4Bs&t=147s).

